

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-9. Canceled
10. (Currently Amended) A purified or recombinant polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9;
an amino acid sequence that differs from SEQ ID NO: 9 by one or more conservative amino acid substitutions; or
an amino acid sequence that differs from SEQ ID NO: 9 by a single mutation, wherein the single mutation represents a single amino acid deletion, insertion or substitution.
11. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The purified or recombinant polypeptide of claim 10 wherein said polypeptide comprises ~~comprising~~ an amino acid of SEQ ID NO: 9.
- 12-14. Canceled
15. (Original) A method of screening for potential human therapeutic agents, said method comprising contacting a SAMP32 polypeptide with a candidate compound; and determining if the candidate compound selectively binds to the SAMP32 polypeptide.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the SAMP32 polypeptide is expressed on the surface of a cell.
17. (Original) An antibody that binds specifically to the protein of SEQ ID NO: 9.
18. (Original) An antigenic composition comprising a SAMP32 polypeptide and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19-29 (Canceled)

30. (New) A composition for inducing an immune response, said composition comprising a purified polypeptide, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

SEQ ID NO: 9 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO: 9; and
a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31. (New) The composition of claim 30 further comprising an adjuvant.

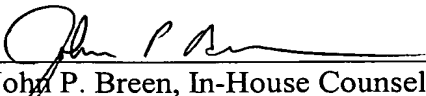
Remarks

Applicants respectfully request that the above amendments be made of record in the instant application. The specification is amended on page 1 to include reference to the parent application and on page 7 to make reference to the appropriate sequence identifiers. The amendments to the claims are made to remove non-elected subject matter from the parent application and provide consistent antecedent basis for the claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the proposed amendments introduce no new matter and are fully supported by the application as originally filed. Claims 11 has been amended to reduce the number of independent claims. Support for new claim 30 is on page 9, lines 3-6 and support for new claim 31 is found on p 10, line 16-28.

The claimed invention is believed to be patentable and applicants request passage of the application to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

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John P. Breen, In-House Counsel
In-House Patent Counsel
University of Virginia Patent Foundation
1224 West Main Street, Suite 1-110
Charlottesville, VA 22903
(434) 243-6103